

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Jean-Pierre Bertin, et al.

Filed: Herewith

For: APPARATUS FOR RECEIVING AUDIOVISUAL  
5 PROGRAMS*#7  
Pre  
Amendm  
MA  
3/29/02***PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents

10 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination and calculation of fees,  
please enter the following Preliminary Amendment and the  
15 accompanying remarks.**IN THE CLAIMS**

20 Please replace the claims with amended claims 1-9 as follows. A marked up copy of the amended claims is attached herewith.

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1. (Amended) Apparatus for receiving audio-visual  
25 programs comprising a circuit for communication with  
means of connection to a bi-directional communication  
network, wherein the apparatus comprises :  
- a first connector of a bus for communication with a  
master apparatus, the first connector comprising at  
30 least one conductor for the transmission of a supply  
voltage originating from the master apparatus,  
- at least one second connector of a  
communication bus, each second connector allowing the  
connection of at least one peripheral,  
35 - a splitter connected on the one hand to the  
first and second connectors and on the other hand to a  
controller managing the mode of operation of the  
connectors in relation to the apparatus,

*A*